

## Message Text

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12

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 AID-20 DRC-01 /099 W

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R 141650Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8906

INFO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ABIDJAN 4756

E O 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, IV, GB

SUBJ: IVORIAN PRESIDENTIAL VISIT TO GABON

REF: LIBREVILLE 708

1. ON JUNE 13 PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY CALLED TOGETHER POLITICAL BUREAU, CABINET, AND ALL OTHER PERSONS WHO ACCOMPANIED HIM ON GABONESE TRIP LAST WEEK. A DEPUTY WHO ATTENDED SAID HOUPHOUET SURPRISED EVERYONE BY CALLING ON EACH OF HIS FELLOW TRAVELERS INDIVIDUALLY AND ASKING FOR THEIR VIEWS OF THE TRIP, WHAT STRUCK THEM PARTICULARLY ABOUT GABON. AND WHETHER THERE WERE ANY LESSONS IN IT FOR IVORY COAST. APPARENTLY A VERY HONEST DISCUSSION, EXCLUSIVELY AMONG IVORIANS, ENSUED.

2. ACCORDING TO NEWSPAPER COVERAGE OF SESSION, IVORIANS WHO WENT ON PRESIDENTIAL VISIT WERE PARTICULARLY IMPRESSED BY NEW SENSE OF CIVISM AND MOBILIZATION OF PARTY MILITANTS FOR COUNTRY'S PROGRESS, AND ESPECIALLY COHESION AND SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY OF THE COUNTRY'S CADRES.

3. ONE FON MIN PARTICIPANT TOLD EMB OFF THAT ONE OF HIGHLIGHTS OF JUNE 13 MEETING WAS DISCUSSION OF GABON'S VERY OPEN IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION POLICY. WHEN QUESTION WAS RAISED AS TO WHETHER THIS DESIRABLE FOR IVORY COAST, HOUPHOUET SPOKE UP AND COMPARED

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THIS COUNTRY AT PRESENT TIME TO US IN EARLY YEARS, WHEN ALL LABOR

POSSIBLE WAS NEEDED TO BUILD UP OUR COUNTRY, REMARKING THAT IT WAS ONLY WHEN WE WERE WELL LAUNCHED ECONOMICALLY THAT BARRIERS BEGAN TO BE PLACED ON FREE IMMIGRATION. HE SAID HE SEES IVORY COAST GOING THROUGH SIMILAR EVOLUTION.

4. THERE IS CURRENTLY A GABONESE DELEGATION VERY QUIETLY IN ABIDJAN, PURPOSE OF WHICH EMBASSY IS UNAWARE. EMB OFF CHANCED TO MEET TWO OF ITS MEMBERS ONE, OF WHOM WAS DOCTOR CHAMBRIER-RAHANDI, DEPUTY AND MEMBER POLITICAL BUREAU.  
SMITH

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, PRESS COMMENTS, IMMIGRATION LAW, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 14 JUN 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** izenbei0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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